

Hardyston's earliest days. Additionally, Hardyston holds the distinction of being the discovery place of Hardystonite, a fluorescent mineral discovered in 1899 in the Franklin Furnace Mine.

Two hundred fifty years after its formation, Hardyston Township continues to be a vibrant community that invites residents and visitors alike to enjoy all that it offers and to become a part of its ongoing history.

As Hardyston Township Celebrates its 250th Anniversary, I offer my congratulations and my heartfelt wish for a future for Hardyston Township that is as bright as—and even brighter than—its rich and notable past.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED JOSEPH CRONA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the life of Northwest Florida's beloved Joseph Crona.

Mr. Crona was a native of Pensacola, Florida and a longtime leader in the Northwest Florida community. He was a true patriot. After graduating from Pensacola High School, Mr. Crona answered the call of duty, serving with honor and distinction during World War II in the European Theater. When he returned home, Mr. Crona attended Florida State University, where he played offense, defense, and special teams on Florida State University's inaugural football team. He continued to follow his beloved Seminoles, taking in games around the country, and he was honored by the University as part of a special ceremony recognizing the Fiftieth Anniversary of the school's first football team.

After graduating from FSU with a degree in economics, Mr. Crona moved back to his hometown where he translated his success in the classroom and on the football field to the boardroom. He began working in the Trust Department at Citizens and Peoples National Bank, rising to become a Trust Officer. In 1971, he joined Commercial National Bank as Executive Vice-President, and shortly thereafter, Mr. Crona became President of Commercial National Bank. He went on to serve as President of Charter National, Century National and finally Sun Bank, where he worked as President/CEO until his retirement in 1994.

Mr. Crona was an avid sportsman, and he pursued his passion for the outdoors through years hunting and fishing. As an active member of the Pensacola Sports Association, Mr. Crona helped to bring world class sporting events to Northwest Florida. He served as President and Tournament Director of the Pensacola Open, which saw world class PGA golfers, including legendary winners such as Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Pensacola's own Jerry Pate, compete at the highest level in front of Northwest Florida's passionate fans.

In addition to his tireless efforts promoting sports throughout the area, Mr. Crona was an active member of Northwest Florida's civic society. He was a member of the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, Navy League and numerous Mardi Gras organiza-

tions. He served as President of the Fiesta of Five Flags, which commemorates Pensacola's founding as the first European settlement in America, and in 1989 he wore the mask of Don Tristan De Luna, as the ceremonial head of the festivities.

As a patriot and a veteran, Mr. Crona also recognized the importance of honoring and thanking the brave men and women who sacrifice so much so that we may be free, and he was a part of a small group who secured financing and oversaw the construction of the World War II Memorial at Veterans Memorial Park in Pensacola.

Mr. Crona is survived by Diane, his wife of 57 years; his daughter, Susan Smart; as well as two grandchildren, Joseph and Sydney Smart. To some Joseph Crona will be remembered as a patriot and a leader in the Northwest Florida community. To others he will be remembered as a lifelong Florida State Seminole. To his friends and family, he will most fondly be remembered as a loving and devoted family man. His tireless work and immense contributions to his community cannot be overstated. Northwest Florida has truly suffered a great loss with his passing.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Joseph Crona. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our most sincere condolences to the entire Crona family.

RECOGNIZING JEANNE MILSTEIN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Connecticut's Child Advocate, Jeanne Milstein, and celebrate her years of service to the State and, more importantly, to Connecticut's children and their families.

For over a decade, Jeanne has headed the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA), which oversees the protection and care of the State's most vulnerable children. Under Jeanne's leadership, the OCA has reviewed and acted on thousands of requests for assistance ranging from safety and health to education. Most recently, the OCA participated in the Children and Recession Task Force, leading an effort on transitioning young adults leaving the care of the state Department of Children and Families. OCA has also led oversight on children in congregate care settings and transitional supports for confined youth. Beyond overseeing the care and protection of Connecticut's children, Jeanne and the OCA have been fierce watchdogs of taxpayer resources.

Jeanne's hard work and dedication have been an invaluable resource for Connecticut and should serve as an example for all those in public service. Again, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding Jeanne's service and recognizing her retirement.

CONGRATULATING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS CHRISTINE K. TULLOCH ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating SFC Christine K. Tulloch for her retirement from the United States Army after 22 years of devoted service. She has also been nominated for the Legion of Merit Award to commemorate her faithful and courageous service. I am honored to recognize SFC Tulloch today for these accomplishments and also take a moment to acknowledge her birthday she recently celebrated on February 17th.

During her distinguished career, SFC Tulloch displayed thrift and foresight in her position as a Movement Supervisor conducting rail, airport, and sea operations. This position required SFC Tulloch to oversee supply chains in order to facilitate the movement of goods and services across significant distances. This work is a vital component of any successful military operation. She performed this duty from 2001 to 2002 in Fort Eustis, Virginia; from 2002 to 2004 in Bamberg, Germany; and from 2004–2005 in Tallahassee, Florida, where she also served as Training NCO.

Throughout her career, SFC Tulloch demonstrated an admiral commitment to the efficiency and effectiveness of military activities. For example, in December 2002 when her team was deployed as an advanced party in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, she administered the safe receipt and transit of more than 5,000 containers. In a conflict as hazardous as the war in Iraq, this was a logistical feat and one that she would repeat many times. In March 2003, her team would preside over the reception, staging and movement of over 40,000 combat and support troops. This would be an influential movement just prior to the second invasion.

SFC Tulloch also served in the U.S. Army Human Resources department where she administered assignments for as many as 12,000 soldiers. It was also necessary to coordinate the Joint Domicile and Married Couple's Program in which SFC Tulloch demonstrated her compassion as well as a high level of competence in arranging over 1,300 personal assignments a year. From 2009 to 2010, SFC Tulloch was promoted to Chief Movement Supervisor for the U.S. Armed forces in CENTCOM in Doha, Qatar. Her performance was such that she meticulously managed the transfer of millions of dollars worth of resources without waste or inaccuracy.

What made the work of SFC Tulloch exceptional was her ability to see opportunities to eliminate excessive bureaucracy in order to maximize the impact of expenditures. For instance, during her time in Iraq, SFC Tulloch was able to investigate some 2,000 overdue invoices and credit card purchases which meant that more than \$3 million dollars was refunded to the U.S. Government. While being posted in Afghanistan, SFC Tulloch was placed in charge of equipment and vehicles valued above \$24.6 million dollars. She was

able to direct the movement of these resources in a timely manner, even when given limited notice in which to organize herself and her team.

Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 2012 Sergeant First Class Christine K. Tulloch will retire from the United States Army. She should be proud of the fact that her record of accomplishments is truly commendable. Throughout her career, SFC Tulloch was able to execute the tasks assigned to her in a capable manner in spite of conditions that were often pressurized and hostile. It is my great honor to recognize SFC Tulloch and I wish her all the best in her retirement and hope that she may continue to use her talents to the betterment of those around her.

RESEARCH WORKS ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer the following statement along with my colleague from California, Rep. DARRELL ISSA:

The introduction of H.R. 3699 has spurred a robust, expansive debate on the topics of scientific and scholarly publishing, intellectual property protection, and public access to federally funded research. Since its introduction, we have heard from numerous stakeholders and interested parties on both sides of this important issue.

As the costs of publishing continue to be driven down by new technology, we will continue to see a growth in open access publishers. This new and innovative model appears to be the wave of the future. The transition must be collaborative, and must respect copyright law and the principles of open access. The American people deserve to have access to research for which they have paid. This conversation needs to continue and we have come to the conclusion that the Research Works Act has exhausted the useful role it can play in the debate. As such, we want Americans concerned about access to research and other participants in this debate to know we will not be taking legislative action on H.R. 3699, the Research Works Act. We do intend to remain involved in efforts to examine and study the protection of intellectual property rights and open access to publicly funded research.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF SUMGAIT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the scores of Armenian lives lost in the vicious attacks perpetrated by Azerbaijani pogroms against Armenian civilians in the town of Sumgait, Azerbaijan 24 years ago. Beginning on February 27, 1988 and for three days, Azerbaijani mobs assaulted and killed Armenians. Hundreds of Armenians were wounded, women and young girls were brutally raped, and victims of all ages were beat-

en and tortured and eventually burned to death. Thousands were driven from their homes and forced to become refugees. Armenian homes and businesses were left to be looted and destroyed.

In the years that followed this heinous event, Armenians living in Kirovabad and Baku suffered a similar fate. These pogroms were only part of a pattern of anti-Armenian activities occurring throughout Azerbaijan, setting the stage for two decades of aggression during which the Azerbaijani government initiated a war against the people of Nagorno-Karabakh. Thousands of people lost their lives and hundreds of thousands of Armenians were displaced as a result of the fighting. A once thriving population of 450,000 Armenians living in Azerbaijan virtually disappeared.

A cease-fire agreement, brokered in 1994, remains in place today. However, Azerbaijan's continued war-mongering, recent cease-fire violations, and dramatic increase of its military budget threaten to destabilize the Nagorno-Karabakh peace talks. In January 2008, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev warned Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh, "We are re-inforcing our army because we must be ready to free our lands . . . at any moment and by any means." Such rhetoric is detrimental to the peace process and is further evidence that this conflict is ongoing and must be resolved. It is my sincerest hope that a democratic and peaceful resolution can be reached, and Nagorno-Karabakh's right to self-determination affirmed.

This April will mark the 97th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, an event the Turkish government, Azerbaijan's closest ally, goes to great and tragic lengths to deny. We must not let such crimes against humanity go unrecognized. Today, let us pause to remember the victims of the atrocities of the Sumgait pogroms. Mr. Speaker, it is our moral obligation to condemn crimes of hatred and to remember the victims, in hope that history will not be repeated.

RECOGNIZING DUSCHA ROSS AS THE 2012 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Duscha Ross as the 2012 Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. Good teachers educate, but the best teachers make a difference and inspire. For eleven years, Ms. Ross has made a significant impact in the lives of her students, colleagues, and community. I am proud to recognize her achievements.

Ms. Ross joined the Okaloosa County, Florida School District in 2002, with a background in Political Science and Military Studies from Pennsylvania State University. Her career as a teacher and mentor began at the Department of Juvenile Justice in Okaloosa County where she taught Language and Reading. Since then she has served the Okaloosa County School District in various capacities as a 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade teacher and a Remedial and Advanced Reading teacher at Northwood Ele-

mentary School. Ms. Ross has proudly served as a 5th grade teacher at Mary Esther Elementary School for the past two years.

Ms. Ross makes a difference by never settling for mediocrity. While some are afraid of change and are unwilling to take risks, Ms. Ross attributes some of her greatest successes in the classroom to the use of a novel approach. She incorporates innovative teaching practices, such as the use of the Balanced Literacy Model, Discovery Education Assessment (DEA) Probes, and technology to supplement daily lessons. Using these methods, she is able to better address the needs of her students and provide them a pathway to success. She strives to share teaching methods with her colleagues to ensure that all can benefit from these successful techniques. She also combines education with community involvement and often invites various community members, including members of the military and local Kiwanis Clubs, to participate in her lessons and interact with other members of Mary Esther Elementary School.

Out of her passion for teaching and her love for children, Ms. Ross sets high standards for all of her students and works with them to achieve their goals and the desired results of the overall academic performance of the class. She is the positive force behind each student's growth of mind, by giving them the confidence, knowledge, and inspiration needed to succeed. Teachers like Ms. Ross leave a perpetual impact on their schools and community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I take great pride in recognizing Ms. Duscha Ross as one of Northwest Florida's finest educators, and I congratulate her on her recent accolade as Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. This is an outstanding achievement, and her service to the area should stand as an example to those who follow in her footsteps. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing her all the best for continued success.

HONORING DR. EDUARDO JOSE PADRON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's Sand In My Shoes Commitment to the Community award ceremony tonight, I rise to recognize and honor one of our nation's top education leaders, Dr. Eduardo Jose Padron. For nearly 20 years, Dr. Padron has served as the president of Miami Dade College, MDC, the nation's largest higher education institution. He has garnered recognition for his leadership from six American presidents and from organizations throughout the world.

Dr. Padron was born on June 26, 1944, in Santiago, Cuba. After arriving in the United States as a refugee at the age of 15, Dr. Padron capitalized on his educational opportunities by earning a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Florida. A decade later, Dr. Padron would become the president of Miami Dade College's Wolfson Campus. There, he implemented revolutionary initiatives that earned him a stellar reputation and propelled